



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ashvin Desai

Docket No.: 10284-0257906

Serial No.: 09/547,708

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filing Date: April 11, 2000

Examiner: Pellegrino, B

For: SECURE STENT FOR MAINTAINING A LUMENAL OPENING

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2001, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be amended as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 5-6, 12, 16-18, and 20-27.

Please add the following new claim:

1. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein said body includes a flared distal end and a flared proximal end and a bulbous middle section.
2. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein a cross-sectional view of said tube in a plane orthogonal to said axis shows an irregular shape of said wall.
7. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein said body includes a flexible wall, and said stent includes a wall adjustment apparatus for expanding and contracting a diameter of said tube.
10. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 33 wherein said tube is in the form of a balloon.